IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing composite sheets, comprising the steps of:

- continuously depositing a web of continuous yarns on a moving substrate, the web comprising at least one first organic material ~~capable of forming a matrix~~ and at least one reinforcing material;
- depositing a powder of a second ~~an~~ organic material ~~capable of forming a smooth surface layer under the action of heat~~ on at least one surface ~~side~~ of said web;
- heating the web coated with the powder to a temperature sufficient to melt the powder into a smooth surface layer and melt said first organic material to form ~~convert the yarns into a~~ matrix within which the reinforcing material is embedded; ~~and~~
- compressing and cooling the web to form a composite strip formed of said matrix embedded with said reinforcing material and said smooth surface layer positioned on an external surface thereof; and
- cutting the strip in the form of sheets or winding the strip on a rotating support.

2. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~***characterized in that***~~ the powder is selected from the group consisting of particles of a thermoplastic material and particles of a thermosetting material.

3. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~***characterized in that***~~ the thermoplastic material is selected from polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters and PVC.

4. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~***characterized in that***~~ the thermosetting material is selected from epoxies, polyesters, polyurethanes and phenolic compounds.

5. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~***characterized in that***~~ the web comprises between 20 and 90%~~, preferably between 30 and 85%,~~ by weight of reinforcing material.

6. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein ~~*characterized in that*~~ the reinforcing material is glass, carbon or aramid.

7. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein ~~*characterized in that*~~ the web comprises at least 50% by weight of intermingled yarns of glass filaments and of filaments of a thermoplastic organic material capable of forming a matrix.

8. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 7, wherein ~~*characterized in that*~~ the web is exclusively in the form of wovens or of continuous non-interlaced yarns.

9. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 8, wherein ~~*characterized in that*~~ the powder is deposited on the web in an amount sufficient to produce a smooth surface layer with a thickness of between 0.3 and 1 mm~~, preferably between 0.6 and 0.8 mm~~.

10.-21. Canceled

22. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing composite sheets at least partly formed from intermingled yarns, comprising the steps of:

- continuously depositing a web of yarns, in the form of a mat of continuous yarns, the web being formed at least partly from intermingled yarns formed of ~~comprising~~ filaments of a thermoplastic organic material ~~capable of forming a matrix~~ and glass filaments intimately mixed;
- depositing on at least one side of said web a powder of an organic material having a ~~high~~ film-forming capability in an amount sufficient to form a smooth surface under the action of heat;
- heating the web coated with the powder to a temperature high enough to convert the web of yarns into a matrix within which the glass filaments are embedded and to melt the powder into a topcoat having a smooth surface; and
- compressing and cooling the web to form a composite strip.

23. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the powder of an organic material has an opacity sufficient to make the glass filaments in the matrix invisible.

24. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the step of depositing a powder further comprises depositing a powder on both sides of said web.

25. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the intermingled yarns comprise a woven material.

26. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the topcoat has a thickness between 0.3 – 1 mm.

27. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the filaments of a thermoplastic organic material and the powder of an organic material comprise the same material.

28. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 27, wherein the filaments of a thermoplastic material and the powder of an organic material comprise polypropylene.

29. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, wherein the web is compressed with a force of about 5 kN to 50 kN per meter of width.

30. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 22, further comprising the step of preventing interpenetration of the topcoat and the matrix by introducing an intermediate layer there between.

31.-33. Canceled

34. (New) The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said web includes hybrid yarns formed of thermoplastic organic filaments and glass filaments.

35. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein said composite strip has a width of approximately 1.5 meters.

36. (New) A process for manufacturing composite sheets, comprising the steps of:

- continuously depositing a web of continuous yarns on a moving substrate, said web comprising at least one first organic material and at least one reinforcing material;
- depositing at least one intermediate structure on at least one surface of said web;
- depositing a powder of a second organic material on said intermediate structure;
- heating said web to a temperature sufficient to melt said powder into a smooth surface layer and melt said first organic material to form a matrix within which said reinforcing material is embedded;
- compressing and cooling said web to form a composite strip; and
- cutting the strip in the form of sheets or winding the strip on a rotating support.

37. (New) The process as claimed in claim 36, wherein said at least one intermediate structure is selected from yarns or yarn assemblies, films, veils, sheets, panels and foams.

38. (New) The process as claimed in claim 36, wherein said web includes hybrid yarns formed of thermoplastic organic filaments and glass filaments.